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CANNED FRUIT
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AUSTRALIAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN PINEAPPLE PACKS INCREASE

AUSTRALIA

The 1966 Australian canned pineapple pack has been estimated at 1,264,000 cases--up 44,000 from the previous year and 265,000 from the 1960-64 average. The largest pack to date was turned out in 1955, when production reached 1,347,000 cases.

As usual, the summer pack will be larger than the winter one; they may total 814,000 and 450,000 cases respectively. The summer pack is canned between January and April, the winter one between May and December. Almost all Australian production takes place in Queensland, with only a minor amount in New South Wales.

Canned pineapple production is primarily for the domestic market. Of the 1966 pack, approximately 900,000 cases, or 71 percent, is estimated for local consumption. However, exports still play an important role and these may total 400,000 cases in 1966 as compared with 289,000 during the previous year. In 1963, Canada became Australia's largest foreign market and it has remained so through 1965. Of total 1965 shipments, Canada took 45 percent, the United Kingdom 34, New Zealand 17, and others 4. However, during the first six months of 1966 (January-June) the United Kingdom imported more than twice as much as Canada.

Fresh fruit prices are governed by the Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee. If canners purchase fruit at the minimum prices set by this Committee, or above, they are eligible to receive a drawback (a means of equalizing the domestic producer's competitive position in export markets with that of foreign competitors) on the sugar content of their products. The 1966 price for bulk first grade pineapple delivered to the factory was \$56 per ton, the same as for the previous year.

The Australian Canned Fruits Board no longer sets minimum export prices for canned pineapple products. Export pricing is now mainly the responsibility of the Queensland Committee of Direction for Fruit Marketing. Most of the canned pineapple products exported by this organization are handled on a consignment basis. Reportedly, prices are determined at the destination point in terms of the prevailing market conditions.

Australian canned pineapple supply and distribution

Item	1964	1965	1966
	- - - 1,000 cartons 24/2½ - - -		
Beginning stocks (Jan. 1)	78	142	133
Production	1,150	1,220	1,264
Imports	---	---	---
Total supply	1,228	1,362	1,397
Exports	336	289	400
Domestic disappearance	750	940	900
Ending stocks	142	133	97
Total distribution	1,228	1,362	1,397

Australian canned pineapple production by season

Year	Summer pack <u>1</u> /	Winter pack <u>2</u> /	Total
	- - - 1,000 cases 24/2½ - - -		
1964	778	372	1,150
1965	728	492	1,220
1966	814	450	1,264

1/ January-April. 2/ May-December.

Australian canned pineapple exports

Country	1964	1965
	1,000 cases	24/2 $\frac{1}{2}$
United Kingdom	126	98
Canada	148	131
New Zealand	51	48
Others	11	12
Total	336	289

Source: Australian Canned Fruit Board.

SOUTH AFRICA

The 1966 South African canned pineapple pack (exclusive of grated pineapple) has been estimated at 1,670,000 cases--up 83,000 from 1965 but below the 1960-64 average of 1,881,000. Purchases of fresh fruit by canners increased in 1965-66 to 95,000 short tons, compared with 77,500 during the previous year; however, the case yields per ton were 17.5 and 20.4 respectively. An estimate of the 1966 grated pineapple pack is not yet available; however, the 1965 pack was 102,000 cases, contrasted with 131,000 one year earlier.

The production of canned pineapple in South Africa is geared predominantly to the export market. Of the 1966 pack, approximately 1,600,000 cases may be exported, compared with 1,481,000 during the previous year. In recent years, South Africa's exports have amounted to more than 90 percent of production; for 1966, export estimates account for 96 percent of the pack. South Africa's major markets are the United Kingdom, West Germany, and Canada.

South African canned pineapple 1/ supply and distribution

Item	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66
	- - - 1,000 cases	24/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	- - -
Beginning stocks (Nov. 1)	(<u>2/</u>)	(<u>2/</u>)	(<u>2/</u>)
Production	1,813	1,587	1,670
Total supply	1,813	1,587	1,670
Exports	1,752	1,481	1,600
Domestic disappearance	61	106	70
Ending stocks (Oct. 31)	(<u>2/</u>)	(<u>2/</u>)	(<u>2/</u>)
Total distribution	1,813	1,587	1,670

1/ Exclusive of grated canned pineapple. 2/ Not available.

Note: Statistics are for members of the South African Canner's Association only.

South African production
of canned grated pineapple

Year	Production	Exports
	- - - 1,000 cases	24/2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1963-64	131	<u>1/</u> 148
1964-65	102	101
1965-66	(<u>2/</u>)	(<u>2/</u>)

1/ Although figures are unavailable, the previous year's carryover accounts for the difference between production and exports.

2/ Not available.

South African canned pineapple exports

Country	1964	1965
	1,000 cases	24/2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Belgium-Luxembourg	16.4	---
Canada	194.0	154.5
Denmark	5.8	---
France	6.3	---
Germany, West	356.0	405.3
Italy	36.2	52.4
Netherlands	28.0	26.4
New Zealand	10.0	---
Sweden	12.6	---
United Kingdom	1,066.5	864.8
United States	120.7	52.8
Other	130.3	175.8
Total	1,982.8	1,732.0

Note: Exports on a calendar year basis as compared to a November year in previous tables.
Exports include grated pineapple.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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